



Christmas Bird Count 2020

Kickoff!

**Nancy Howell, CBC Compiler for the
Lakewood Circle**

Monday, December 7, 2020 at 7:00 PM (EST)

Visit www.wcaudubon.org

Christmas Bird Count 2020 Kickoff!



— www.wcaudubon.org —

- **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 2020 KICKOFF!** - Monday, December 7, 2020 at 7:00 PM
 - Rah, rah, rah, get psyched for the count, get information on data collecting, and sign up participants.
- **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT BIRD ID AND MORE!** - Monday, December 14 at 7:00 PM
 - Review some bird ID's that could be confusing ... get information and sign up more participants
- **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT ACTUAL DATE** - Sunday, December 27, 2020
 - This is the day participants count the birds in the Count Circle, walking routes, driving routes or feeder watching. Please contact Nancy Howell directly at nancyhowell@wcaudubon.org
- **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 2020 WRAP-UP** - Monday, January 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM
 - Gather around while the checklist is read with the species tallied, tell stories of your count day and share photos. Should be fun.

Register <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/western-cuyahoga-audubon-10580650707>



Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2019, Rocky River Falls, Olmsted Falls, OH by Penny O'Connor

12/28/2019

Lakewood Circle Map



Lakewood Circle with “pinned” area

This map shows the Lakewood Circle area in Cleveland, Ohio, with numerous blue location pins indicating specific points of interest. The map includes major highways (I-90, I-480, I-71) and local roads. Key landmarks visible include Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital, and several parks and reserves like Rocky River, Westlake, and Olmsted Falls. The map also shows the surrounding city areas of Lakewood, Westlake, and Parma. A text box at the top left indicates: "This map was created by a user. Learn how to create your own."



Christmas Bird Count-Lakewood Circle Map 2020

https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1RnzdKpV_T7EOfXA05WuhhWLJ7ei2RUx8&usp=sharing

CBC Circles

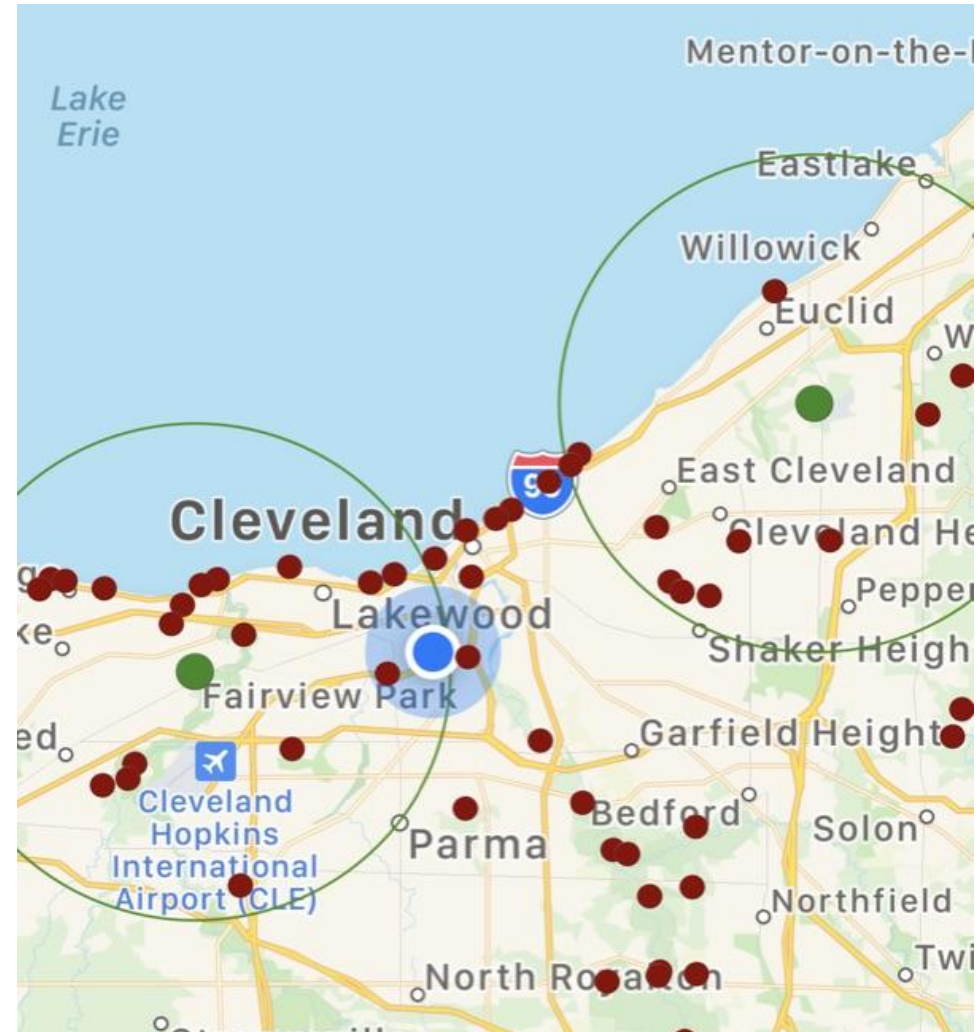
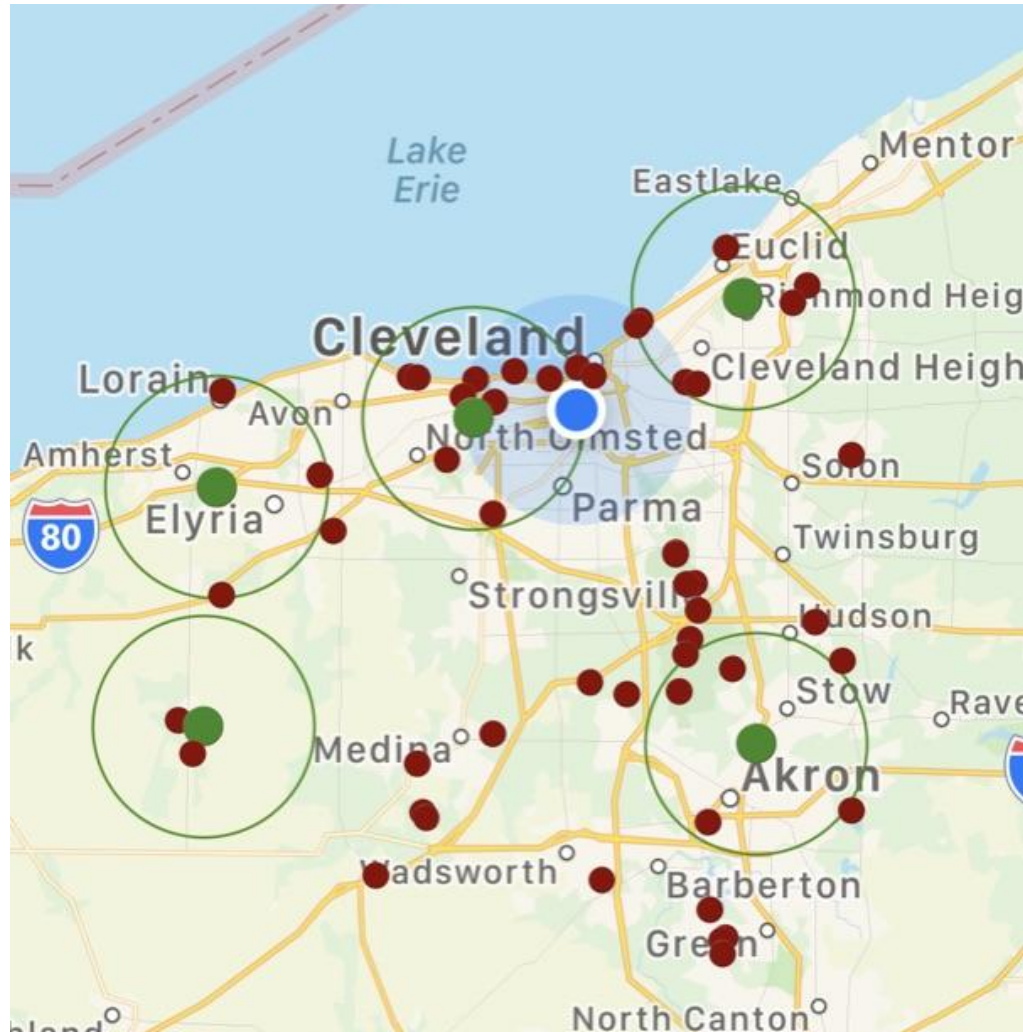




Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2017. Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*), Hopkins Airport, Cleveland, OH by Chuck Slusarczyk Jr.

CBC Areas Covered



- Big Creek Parkway - Brookpark Rd. to Stumpf Rd.
- Big Creek Parkway - Stumpf Rd. south to Smith and/or Bagley Rd.
- Bradley Woods, Huntington Reservation and western edge
- Baldwin & Wallace Lakes - Valley Parkway from Eastland Rd. north to Bagley Rd.
- Cleveland Lakefront - eastern section
- Cleveland Lakefront - western section
- Elmwood/Clague Park, Lakewood Park Cemetery
- Lake Isaac/Beyer's Pond/Main Street fields/Woodvale Cemetery

CBC Areas Covered



- Lake to Lake Trail - Bagley Rd. to Eastland parking lot. Eastland Rd., Sheldon Rd, and Engle Rd. borders
- Hopkins Airport, Rocky River Valley Parkway - Bagley to Lagoon Picnic area, Coe Lake
- Sunset Mem. Park/Chestnut Grove Cem./David Fortier Park
- Tri-C Western Campus (Parma) and adjacent city parks - James Day Park (Parma) and Nathan Hale Park (Parma Hts.)
- West Park & Holy Cross Cemeteries, KeyBank wetland and American Greetings complex
- Zoo and Brookside Reservation

CBC Areas That Need Coverage



- Lake to Lake Trail - Fowles Rd. to Bagley Rd. and Engle Rd. sledding hill off Engle Rd.
- Big Met/Little Met Golf Courses, Lorain Rd. to I-480 bridge - Rocky River Reservation
- Puritas Wetlands
- Renaissance Senior Living Center property/golf course - Olmsted Township
- Rocky River Nature Center Trails
- Southwest area of circle Berea, Olmsted Twp,/Falls - driving route following Turnpike

Compiler: Nancy Howell Cell/Text 440-655-5926 Email nancyhowell@wcaudubon.org

CBC Areas That Need Coverage



- Senior Living Communities and Assisted Living Communities
- Feeder watchers
- Neighborhood walks looking around schoolyards, pocket parks, green spaces, creeks, cemeteries, etc.
- Driving routes - drive to an area, get out of car to walk or look, then drive to another area along a route.
- Owling before sunrise or after sunset on your route to look or listen for owls. Driving and stopping at various places may bring a surprise.

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Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2017. Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*), Hopkins Airport, Cleveland, OH by Chuck Slusarczyk Jr.

Chuck Slusarczyk Jr.
12/30/17 - Cleveland, OH

COVID Safe Christmas Count



The National Audubon Society requests that the following COVID-19 safety guidelines be used.

- ❖ Wear a mask no matter who you are birding with. Mask wearing is for the safety of all.
- ❖ Walk in groups of fewer than 10 people. If there are 10 in a group, split the group into smaller groups, each group with a leader, to cover areas
- ❖ Keep at least 6 feet apart from other non-family members
- ❖ At every opportunity, use hand sanitizer or, if possible, wash hands
- ❖ Carpooling among non-family members must be avoided. Group members should drive separately.
- ❖ Should COVID-19 cases spike, National Audubon Society, will cancel the CBC for the year. WCAS will keep all participants informed. WCAS wants to keep everyone safe and healthy!

CBC Bird Checklist



LAKESWOOD CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020

1

Area covered by you/your team _____

_____ Snow Goose	_____ Bonaparte's Gull	_____ Eastern Phoebe
_____ Canada Goose	_____ Little Gull	_____ Northern Shrike
_____ Mute Swan	_____ Ring-billed Gull	_____ Blue Jay
_____ Tundra Swan	_____ Herring Gull	_____ American Crow
_____ Wood Duck	_____ Iceland Gull	_____ Horned Lark
_____ Northern Shoveler	_____ Lesser Black-backed Gull	_____ Black-capped Chickadee
_____ Gadwall	_____ Glaucous Gull	_____ Tufted Titmouse
_____ American Wigeon	_____ Great Black-backed Gull	_____ Red-breasted Nuthatch
_____ American Black Duck	_____ Common Loon	_____ White-breasted Nuthatch
_____ Mallard	_____ Double-crested	_____ Brown Creeper
_____ Northern Pintail	_____ Cormorant	_____ Carolina Wren
_____ Green-winged Teal	_____ Great Blue Heron	_____ Winter Wren
_____ Canvasback	_____ Black-crowned Night Heron	_____ Golden-crowned Kinglet
_____ Redhead	_____ Black Vulture	_____ Ruby-crowned Kinglet
_____ Ring-necked Duck	_____ Turkey Vulture	_____ Eastern Bluebird
_____ Greater Scaup	_____ Northern Harrier	_____ Hermit Thrush
_____ Lesser Scaup	_____ Sharp-shinned Hawk	_____ American Robin
_____ Scaup sp.	_____ Cooper's Hawk	_____ Gray Catbird
_____ Harlequin Duck	_____ Bald Eagle	_____ Northern Mockingbird
_____ Surf Scoter	_____ Red-shouldered Hawk	_____ European Starling
_____ White-winged Scoter	_____ Red-tailed Hawk	
_____ Black Scoter	_____ Rough-legged Hawk	
_____ Long-tailed Duck	_____ Eastern Screech Owl	
_____ Bufflehead	_____ Great Horned Owl	
_____ Common Goldeneye	_____ Snowy Owl	
_____ Hooded Merganser	_____ Barred Owl	
_____ Common Merganser		
_____ Red-breasted Merganser		
_____ Ruddy Duck		
_____ Wild Turkey		
_____ Ring-necked Pheasant		

If you don't use eBird, use the WCAS CBC Bird Checklist 2020 at:

https://www.wcaudubon.org/uploads/5/6/0/1/56016295/cbc_bird_list_2020_.pdf

Data on Checklist



Total Bird Species _____

Total Individual Birds _____

DATA FOR COMPILER

Names and email addresses of people in party:

Name _____ Email address _____

Name _____ Email address _____

Name _____ Email address _____

Name _____ Email address _____

Name _____ Email address _____

Data on Checklist



Weather: (temperature, precipitation, sky conditions, wind, snow cover)

Hours on foot _____ **Miles on foot** _____

Hours in car _____ **Miles in car** _____

Hours at feeder _____

TOTAL HOURS _____ **TOTAL MILES** _____

Compiler: Nancy Howell, 19340 Fowles Rd., Middleburg Hts., OH 44130
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Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2016. Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) by Anna Kozlenko.

CBC Data Collecting



- **Record all species of birds ...**

This includes Rock Doves (Feral Pigeons), House Sparrows, and European Starlings

- **Number of each species**

Example: 342 Rock Doves, 187 House Sparrows, etc.

- **Consider “owling”** in the early morning (before dawn) or later evening (after dusk). Keep track of “owling” time and distance separate from daylight birding times and distance.

CBC Bird Checklist



1

LAKEWOOD CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020

Area covered by you/your team _____ Snow Rd. Picnic area/ Big Creek Pkwy _____

_____	Snow Goose	_____	Bonaparte's Gull	_____	Eastern Phoebe
50	Canada Goose	_____	Little Gull	_____	Northern Shrike
_____	Mute Swan	12	Ring-billed Gull	_____	
_____	Tundra Swan	1	Herring Gull	13	Blue Jay
1	Wood Duck	_____	Iceland Gull	4	American Crow
_____	Northern Shoveler	_____	Lesser Black-backed Gull	_____	Horned Lark
_____	Gadwall	_____	Glaucous Gull	_____	
_____	American Wigeon	_____	Great Black-backed Gull	11	Black-capped Chickadee
2	American Black Duck	_____	Common Loon	6	Tufted Titmouse
_____	Mallard	_____	Double-crested Cormorant	2	Red-breasted Nuthatch
12	Northern Pintail	_____		5	White-breasted Nuthatch
_____	Green-winged Teal	1	Great Blue Heron	_____	Brown Creeper
_____	Canvasback	_____	Black-crowned Night Heron	_____	
_____	Redhead	_____		4	Carolina Wren
_____	Ring-necked Duck	_____		1	Winter Wren
_____	Greater Scaup	_____	Black Vulture	_____	
_____	Lesser Scaup	_____	Turkey Vulture	1	Golden-crowned Kinglet
_____	Scaup sp.	_____		_____	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
_____	Harlequin Duck	_____	Northern Harrier	_____	
_____	Surf Scoter	_____	Sharp-shinned Hawk	_____	Eastern Bluebird
_____	White-winged Scoter	1	Cooper's Hawk	_____	
_____	Black Scoter	_____	Bald Eagle	_____	
_____	Long-tailed Duck	_____		_____	

CBC Data Collecting



- Please include a list of **ALL** the names and emails of participants in your group
- **Keep to your selected or assigned route** so areas are not duplicated
- Write down the weather conditions during the day, such as temperature, sky conditions, any precipitation and, if there is snowfall, an average depth of the snow.

Data on Checklist and eBird



Total Bird Species 35

Total Individual Birds 1,021

DATA FOR COMPILER

Names and email addresses of people in party:

Name Jay Gray Email address XXXXXXXXX.com

Name Phoebe Smith Email address XXXXXXXXX.com

Name Robert White Email address XXXXXXXXX.com

Name _____ Email address _____

Name _____ Email address _____



Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2018. European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) by Kathy Murphy.

CBC Data Collecting - time & distance



- Keep track of **hours and miles walked, one-way** since eBird measures distance as one-way.
- Keep track of **hours and miles driven only during the count, one way** since eBird measures distance as one-way. If you take a break from counting to get something to eat, please do not add the time and the distance travelled during your break.
- If feeder watching, keep **track of the length of time the feeder is watched**. Feeder does not have to be watched continuously, but add together all the times that it is watched.

Data on Checklist



Weather: (temperature, precipitation, sky conditions, wind, snow cover)

32 degrees when started at 8:00 AM., Overcast, No precipitation, No wind. 4 inches of snow from a couple days ago.

36 degrees when ended at 12:00 PM. If you go out in the afternoon and the weather changes, keep track of changes

Hours on foot 4.0

Miles on foot 3.0 miles

Hours in car 0.5

Miles in car 5.0 miles

Hours at feeder 1.5

TOTAL HOURS 6.0

TOTAL MILES 8.0 miles

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Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2019. Berea Falls to Lagoons Coe Lake, Berea, OH by Liz McQuaid.

CBC Checklist Using eBird



- Use eBird to keep your data - most, if not all of the routes in the Circle, are hotspots. Keep multiple lists throughout the day
Example: if you stop at three distinct areas, keep a separate list for each stop.
- Share your information with me at nancyhowell@wcaudubon.org via email OR scan the list OR take a clear photo of the checklist
Also add:
 - names and email addresses of participants in group
 - add weather conditions
 - add hours on foot, miles on foot, hours in car, miles in car, hours at feeder

Photos may also be sent to nancyhowell@wcaudubon.org

CBC Rarities Reporting



What if I see an unusual bird?

Rarities and unusual species may occur, especially this year with winter finches, owls and waterbirds already being noted. Record a detailed description of its appearance, who saw the bird(s), behavior of the bird, equipment used for viewing the bird, and an exact location. Photos, even blurry photos, are the best thing.

Rare/unusual birds may not make the CBC list unless verified. A rare bird documentation form will be sent to you should a rarity/unusual species occur. Documentation is necessary to verify the rare/unusual species, it is NOT questioning a participant's sighting.



Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2016. American Coot (*Fulica americana*) by Anna Kozlenko.

Count Week - What is That?

The Lakewood Circle CBC takes place on Sunday, December 27, 2020, yet there may be species that are sighted before or after our official count day, this is known as **Count Week**.

Count Week comprises the 3 days prior to the Count Day (Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 24 - 26) AND and 3 days after the Count Day (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28 - 30).

Example: If Turkey Vultures were sighted 2 days before the official Count Day but no Turkey Vultures were seen on Count Day, then they will be added to the bird list as Count Week sightings. So it is important to keep a look out 3 days before and 3 days after the official Count Day.



Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2019. White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) by Gary Hietala.

FAQ's for the CBC



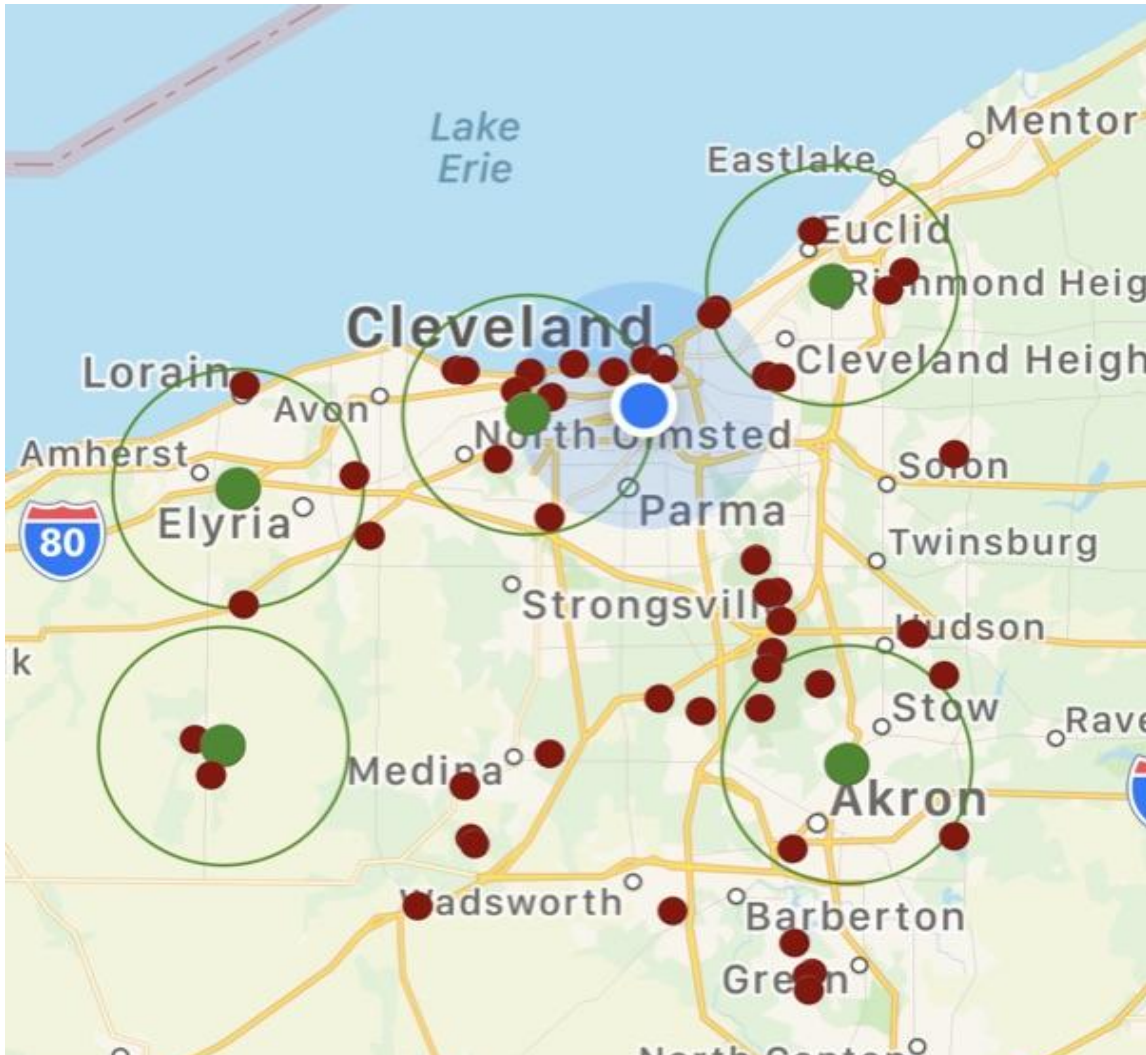
I see other CBC Counts listed in other resources, why?

National Audubon Society selects the time frame that CBC's can be held starting December 14 through January 5. There are several Count Circles in Ohio with different organizations selecting the dates of their count. Our count, the Lakewood Circle, sponsored by Western Cuyahoga Audubon is being held Sunday, December 27, 2020, the date we selected.

Can I join other CBC's?

Absolutely! In Ohio counts may take place from December 14 through January 5 as noted above. The National Audubon website has a map of locations sites here, www.audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-bird-count. Look at Ohio and contact the sponsoring organization or compiler for each count in which you would like to participate.

CBC Circles in area



Count Circles on this map include

- Elyria (Lorain Co.)
- Wellington (Lorain Co.)
- Lakewood (Cuyahoga Co.)
- Cleveland (Cuyahoga Co.)
- Cuyahoga Falls (Summit Co.)

FAQ's for the CBC



I saw a bird I cannot identify, what should I do?

Best to get a photo if possible and/or write down a detailed description. WCAS members can then help with the identification. Join us for a CBC Bird ID event being held on Monday, December 14 at 7:00 PM to go over some of the tougher identifications.

What should I wear?

The CBC goes on no matter the weather. Dress in layers, with appropriate footwear for walking. Don't forget your mask. Hand warmers are a good investment (for cold hands). Binoculars, and if you have a spotting scope, especially for open fields or lakes.



Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2017. American Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea*) by Mike and Deb Sweeney.

National Audubon Society Resources



- **Audubon Christmas Bird Count** The nation's longest-running community science bird project fuels Audubon's work throughout the year.
<https://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count>

- **WCAS Christmas Bird Count-Lakewood Circle**
Reports Archive
https://www.wcaudubon.org/store/c12/Christmas_Bird_Count_Reports.html



Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2019. Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) by Deb Sweeney.



Thank You!

Please consider a membership to
Western Cuyahoga Audubon

www.wcaudubon.org/membership-2020-2021.html



Photo: CBC-Lakewood Circle 2017. Ducks by Mary Anne Romito.